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 ACTION AF-01

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|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| INFO LOG-00 | CIAE-00 | OASY-00 | DOEE-00 | EUR-01 | H-01 | TEDE-00 |
| INR-00 | IO-16 | LAB-01 | L-01 | ADS-00 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 |
| OIC-02 | OMB-01 | PA-01 | PM-00 | PRS-01 | P-01 | SNP-00 |
| SP-00 | SS-00 | TRSE-00 | T-00 | USIE-00 | PMB-00 | PRME-01 |
| DRL-09 | G-01 | | /038W | | | |

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O 030905Z JUN 94
 FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4520
 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
 SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY MBABANE
 AMEMBASSY MASERU
 AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
 AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
 AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
 AMCONSUL DURBAN
 AMEMBASSY GABORONE
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
 AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK
 AMEMBASSY LUANDA

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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
 AMEMBASSY HARARE
 AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 007723

LONDON FOR MCKINLEY, PARIS FOR PERLOW

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: SF, XW, PREL, PGOV
 SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA: SOUTH AFRICA TO PROVIDE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 DATE/CASE ID: 06 MAY 2011 201005065

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REF: STATE 119480; PRETORIA 07006

1. CONFIDENTIAL-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE JUNE 2 EDITIONS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS REPORTED A JUNE 1 DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY CABINET TO PROVIDE RWANDA WITH PURELY HUMANITARIAN AID. SENDING PEACE-KEEPING TROOPS WAS NOT AN OPTION. THE NEWSPAPERS QUOTED A SPOKESMAN FOR PRESIDENT MANDELA AS SAYING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD RESPONDED TO URGENT APPEALS FROM THE U.N. "OUT OF DEEP CONCERN ABOUT CONTINUING CARNAGE IN RWANDA" AND WOULD CONSULT WITH U.N. OFFICIALS REGARDING THE SPECIFIC ROLE SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT PLAY IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO END THE CONFLICT.
PROVIDING PERSONNEL FOR A FIELD HOSPITAL (A SUGGESTION REPORTEDLY FIRST MADE BY U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS-GHALI) IS APPARENTLY ONE POSSIBILITY
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UNDER DISCUSSION.

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3. PRESSED FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, DFA [REDACTED] TOLD US ON JUNE 2 HE COULD NOT "LET THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG"

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[REDACTED] WERE STILL DISCUSSING WITH UNHCR OFFICIALS THE PRECISE FORM OF SOUTH AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE RWANDA EFFORT. [REDACTED] SAID THAT, BESIDES THE FIELD-HOSPITAL POSSIBILITY, THERE WERE SIMPLER ALTERNATIVES SUCH AS PROVISION OF BLANKETS AND STAPLE FOODS. IN HIS OPINION, THE FIELD-HOSPITAL IDEA WOULD NOT IN FACT BE VIABLE. ASSUMING THAT A FIELD HOSPITAL WOULD NECESSARILY MEAN A MILITARY FACILITY STAFFED BY MILITARY PERSONNEL, HE SAID: "IF WE ARE GOING TO SEND A FIELD HOSPITAL, WE MIGHT AS WELL SEND TROOPS." AND THAT, HE ADDED, WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION; THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCE IS PREOCCUPIED WITH ITS OWN TRANSFORMATION AND IS NOT READY FOR HIGH-VISIBILITY MISSIONS OF THIS KIND. [REDACTED] CONCLUDED THAT, IN ANY CASE, THE IDEA OF A FULLY-STAFFED HOSPITAL WOULD ENTAIL SERIOUS LANGUAGE

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PROBLEMS: SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK EITHER FRENCH OR THE LOCAL RWANDAN LANGUAGE, THE TWO OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE COUNTRY.

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4. COMMENT: THIS REPRESENTS THE ADVICE THAT SENIOR OFFICIALS ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE FROM, THE DEPARTMENT
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OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND, WE SUSPECT, THE MILITARY.
HOWEVER, SENIOR LEADERS HAVE NOT YET MADE A FINAL DECISION ON SOUTH AFRICAN ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED

LYMAN

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